

VISIT TO KONA.

A New Sugar Plantation—Delightful Scenery and Climate—A Fertile Region, etc.

Last week I made my first trip to Kona, and rather forced by curiosity than anything else, I put my foot on this part of Hawaii, from where the queerest reports were flying about. I did not find two persons out of a hundred who would tell the same yarn; and, as I always like to find out the truth, I made my mind up to spend a holiday there and to satisfy my curiosity.

The first impression of North Kona, after passing through the village of Kailua, was not a favorable one, as stones were gazing upon me as an intruder into their solitude, which is occasionally interrupted by a jackass grazing on poor provender, although in appearance these animals seem to be more than skin and bones. After a good mile's ride towards the place called Holualoa, I turned away to inspect the new sugar plantation, laughing at the idea of starting such an enterprise in this desert. But I could not remain long with these thoughts. At first a few shrubs were spread over here and there, and then more and more until, as I proceeded upward, I found myself right in the centre of a most vigorous plantation; and was very much taken by surprise, as I never expected that a paradise could be so near the desert through which I passed only a few minutes before. The intense heat which had exhausted me and my horse disappeared, and a most agreeable air prevailed around me. Refreshed by the cool air, I soon was at the house of the manager of the new sugar plantation, and walking through the nice garden, I met Messrs. Coe and Strachan, the managers of the Kona Sugar Co., who welcomed me in their cordial manner, and I accepted their kind invitation to stay a couple of days. The climate seems good, and nothing disturbs the peace of their new home. As I learned from my kind hosts, they very seldom feel a breath of wind on their place called Holualoa; its situation being behind the Hualalai and Maunaloa mountains, it is protected from the trade-winds.

A total of nine inches of rainfall was recorded during the last four months at the elevation of 1500 feet, which is quite sufficient for the wants of sugar cane, as I was told by my host.

By the thickness of the forest and by other impressions made upon me, I must believe that very few white men have ever before forced their way through these tracts of land held now by the Kona Sugar Company, and any man must be very ignorant who can find nothing else in Kona but clinkers and lantana jungles.

It is a shame that the residents in Kona keep people away from these most healthy and flourishing districts of this paradise of the Hawaiian Islands, by reports of droughts and sterility, while they fatten on the rich cream of their fine looking cows. No steamer brings better cattle, sweeter fruits and larger stalks of sugarcane to Honolulu than the W. G. Hall. Persons suffering from rheumatism, lung diseases, etc., are sent by the physicians to Kona, to be relieved and cured. Do not stop on the rocky beach of Kona; go towards the mountains, along the upper government road. Thousands upon thousands of acres, which can be used for everything and anything are lying idle there; while many a man who has sought to invest his money in other places, fails as he cannot find a suitable tract of land to make a home, never thought of Kona, on account of its bad name. Sick and disgusted he returns to the States, and thus keeps his friends from settling on the Hawaiian Islands. Steps should be taken by the government to try by all means to popularize these fertile districts; then it will be only a matter of time when Kona will be the most populous district of this Kingdom, as it formerly was.

I went over the canefields of the new plantation, and great credit is due to the management, as a great deal of work has been done under difficult circumstances, to start this enterprise, which doubtless will turn out to the satisfaction of its stockholders. About one hundred acres are planted, mostly with Lahaina cane, and a piece of eighty acres will be planted in a few weeks, which is covered to a large extent with ferns and is free from stones. A dark deep soil is found and wherever cane is planted it looks firm and vigorous. Most of the land of the company is pretty nearly level and free from stones. There are two streams of water high up on their land—a larger and a smaller one,—the former which runs along the only gulch on their place, and the latter one drains the water from a swamp covering many acres. One of them, if led in a flume, which will be more than sufficient to carry all the cane to the mill. I learn a twenty-ton mill will soon be on the way out from Germany, and will be set up close to the beach. Their first crop is estimated at 1500 tons. The country will have to thank these gentlemen, if they succeed in making the first step to transform the fine Kona districts into an industrious country. TOURIST.

A Sea Snake.

We learn from the Hongkong Free Press that the mate of the American ship Agenor lying in Hongkong harbor on July 18th last, was surprised at that date to find a snake coiled up in the vessel under the grating at the top of the ladder. He called assistance, and the reptile was speared with a grain used for catching fish. After it was killed the snake was measured and found to be twelve feet long and nearly one foot in circumference. It was a sea snake of the usual black and white species; but its large size and its ability to have climbed from the sea to where it was found caused much conjecture.

These sea snakes are frequently met with in all tropical seas; but, curiously enough, naturalists seem to have given them very little attention. The natural history of animal life in tropical lands and oceans, is a book that has yet to be written; but when trade increases between tropical and civilized countries sufficiently to warrant the publication of such a work, it will doubtless be forthcoming.

Even in Honolulu, it is doubtful whether the most profound naturalist among the residents, has a knowledge of one-tenth of the ocean life around these coasts—a life that would be visible to the unaided vision of the average man, were he to make a proper search.

THE KILLING OF JUDGE TERRY.

What is Thought of it by Two of the Ablest Lawyers in America.

After the funeral of the late Judge Terry had been held in Stockton, his friends telegraphed to General Butler and Colonel Ingersoll, offering them large sums if they would go to California and undertake the prosecution in the trial of Deputy-Marshal Neagle, who killed Terry. These gentlemen, without communicating with each other, made remarkable replies, which indicate public sentiment at the East.

General Butler positively refused to act as prosecutor, and said:

"I believed Terry would die a violent death." "He killed Broderick, my best friend. That was a deliberate murder." "I wonder why there can be any doubt as to Neagle's conduct and liability. As I understand it, Terry had been duly sentenced for contempt of court. He had sworn revenge upon Judge Field. He was armed in Court when he committed the contempt. He testified that he always bore arms. He had resigned his seat as Chief Justice of California in order to fight a duel. He was a man of blood. In consequence of his character and threats, and the fear that he might do great bodily harm to Judges Field and Sawyer, the officers of the Department of Justice had detailed Mr. Neagle to attend upon the Judges, watch over them and protect them from Terry."

Neagle was at the time in charge of Justice Field in the performance of his duty, and after seeing the hand drawn back as if to seize a weapon, he shot, and, Heaven be praised, he was a good shot.

"I have not seen Neagle's legal position correctly stated, and the Attorney-General was very properly reticent about it. I agree fully that the common law is that one man when attacked by another has the right to use all the force that is necessary to preserve his life, but before he uses a deadly weapon he must have exhausted his other means of defense, and, in the language of the old law, must be back to the wall, or he is culpable, if death ensues, not of murder necessarily, but of homicide, more or less unjustifiable."

"But this was not Neagle's case at all. He was an officer of the law. Nobody was attacking him. He had no occasion to be back to the wall. On the contrary, it was his duty to stand up to the attack. He had no animosity against Terry. He was put there to do an official duty, and that was to protect the Judge, and he was to do that duty in the exercise of his own best judgment, when and how and where he could best do it, and in the exercise of nobody else's judgment. "And he is not to be harmed or even put to his defense unless it can be shown that he acted maliciously and with an evil design. Any such claim of course is groundless. This view of course disposes of the claim against Judge Field that he conspired with Neagle to shoot Terry. If Neagle and the Judge had gone out somewhere and hunted up Terry and killed him, such a charge might possibly be sustained, but how could they conspire to make Terry come and strike the Judge?"

INGERSOLL'S DECIDED EXPRESSIONS.

Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll was sitting in his charming little summer home, Wave Crest, Rockaway, when he received a dispatch announcing that the friends of Judge Terry wanted him to come out to California to prosecute Judge Field and Deputy Marshal Neagle. "I will not go. There is not enough money in California to take me out on such an errand," said the great agnostic, emphatically. "Why, we might as well banish our courts of law if our Judges are to be terrorized and assaulted for rendering honest decisions. From all I have heard and seen, the Justice has committed no offense unless it be one to be insulted. Money could not pay me to prosecute Justice Field in this case. I believe in a perfectly free judiciary. If a Judge renders a corrupt decision the law provides for his impeachment. If suitors who are defeated resort to brute force and people sustain such a course then courts should be abolished. The individual must submit to law as administered and expounded by courts, and must seek his remedy within the law."

DIFFUSION PLANT LANDED.

Seven-eighths of a New Plant for Hanalei Mill Landed from the S. G. Wilder.

The greater portion of a diffusion plant for the Hanalei Mill, Kauai, has been landed from the barkentine S. G. Wilder. There are about seven-eighths of the plant already arrived, and the other eighth is expected by the tern W. S. Bowne. Hanalei was the first mill to have a complete crushing plant, which was set up in 1863; and since that time no additions of any consequence have been made to the machinery. At the close of last season a contract was made with Mr. J. N. S. Williams for a complete diffusion plant to work up 150 tons of cane in twenty-four hours; and this plant, part of which is now landed, consists of a diffusion battery of fourteen cells, fitted with all the latest improvements indicated by experience at Kealia. There are two slashing machines of entirely new construction, and embodying a new principle. There is also a triple effect in connection with the battery. The old-fashioned three-roller mill has been converted into a four-roller arrangement for squeezing the exhausted chips to make them fit for fuel. The portions of the diffusion plant, now landed from the Wilder, comprise air compressor, centrifugal, mixer-shafting and pulleys, and a duplex Blake feeding-pump, one of the first that ever was sent to the Islands. The whole of the plant was built at the Union Iron Works, San Francisco, from drawings and specifications furnished by the contractor, who also superintended the construction in San Francisco. The whole of this machinery, together with a large plant for Hon. H. P. Baldwin, was constructed in three and a-half months from the date of signing the contract; notwithstanding that the Union Iron Works had in hand the construction of three war vessels for the U. S. Government, and several other heavy contracts all at the same time.

The plant now landed for Hanalei Mill will be carried by schooners to its destination, and put up with all dispatch.

OAHU RAILROAD.

A Successful Experimental Excursion, and the Redemption of Mr. B. F. Dillingham's Promise Given One Year Ago.

One year ago Wednesday Mr. B. F. Dillingham obtained his franchise to construct the Oahu railroad, and upon that occasion he promised a number of his friends that within a year he would have a portion of the line in running order. Mr. Dillingham never forgot this promise, and its fulfillment was performed yesterday when the friends aforesaid had "a ride upon the rails."

A Baldwin locomotive and two excursion cars were got ready to start at 4 p. m., and by that hour the following gentlemen, among others, had taken their seats in the foremost car, viz: W. R. Castle, H. A. Widemann, J. G. Spencer, J. H. Fisher, Paul Neumann, M. P. Robinson, J. H. Soper, Godfrey Brown, Frank Brown, Dr. Whitney, H. Lose, E. Muller, W. A. Bowen, J. F. Colburn, Walter M. Giffard, A. Jaeger, Geo. Castle, Chas. Hammer, B. F. Dillingham, James Torbert, and representatives of the ADVERTISER and Bulletin. The second car was filled chiefly with native Hawaiians, and it was crammed. There were about 150 persons on board the train altogether, and the crowd on the ground that could not be accommodated was very considerable.

Exactly at the hour appointed 4 p. m. the whistle blew and the train began to move; its speed increasing until a rate of 10 or 12 miles an hour was reached. The crowds that had gathered at various portions of the line cheered the train as it passed, and those on board responded vociferously. The train ran very smoothly all the way to the Palama rice fields, up to which point only the line has been fully finished. Although the distance was not much over a mile, yet it gave an earnest of the great energy being displayed in getting the line ready. The line and works are very creditable to all concerned; and, although it was not considered advisable to make the return journey owing to the engine being new and previously untried, yet the outing and the novelty of the trip were thoroughly enjoyed. This first trial was certainly a success; but as the first experimental trip on the line, and also a redemption of the promise given by Mr. Dillingham a year ago.

The engine used upon the occasion was a new "Baldwin," and it returned to town later in the evening—the passengers having in the interim come back by other conveyances. Mr. Kleugel, the company's engineer, was the driver of the engine upon the occasion, and his skill and judgment under the circumstances do him much credit. It must be taken into consideration that the newness of the embankment renders it scarcely settled, and great care and caution had to be observed by the engineer owing to the heavy weight of the train. In a few weeks time two locomotives built by Baldwin of Philadelphia, will arrive in Honolulu; and several passenger cars of 1st and 2d class, similar in appearance and finish to those used in the United States. By that time the whole line to Pearl Harbor will be about ready for the rolling stock, and then the comforts of railroad travelling to that pleasant resort will be fully begun.

S. S. MARIPOSA CONCERT.

An Enjoyable Entertainment at Sea—Celebrated Professional Actors and Actresses Perform the Night Before Reaching Honolulu.

Among the passengers by the S. S. Mariposa was Mr. Harry Edwards, well known as an actor in the Australian colonies and the United States. He was for a considerable time attached to the California Theatre, and for eight years was stage director of Wallace's Theatre, New York, retaining that position until the lamented death of Mr. Lester Wallace, in September, 1888. Mr. Edwards is on his way to Australia to produce the now world-celebrated play of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and on his return to New York in March or April next will remain over for a few weeks in Honolulu, and will present the play to a Hawaiian audience. Mr. Edwards is accompanied by Miss Ollie Berkeley the most talented child actress of America, who although only a little over nine years of age, has already received a remarkable reputation both in England and the United States. Miss Berkeley has just opened offer of engagement from Mr. Boehm of the Haymarket, London, and at the termination of her present trip, will probably become a member of the company of that noted establishment. Mrs. Berkeley, her mother, and Miss Ethel Winthrop, a graceful and accomplished actress, is also of the party, all of whom look forward with intense pleasure to a few weeks in the beautiful islands of the northern tropical sea. A most interesting evening was passed on board the Mariposa on Friday, Aug. 30th, being a concert to celebrate the last day spent on board before reaching Honolulu, and to bid farewell to the good friends who left the steamer at this port. The programme consisted of recitations and songs by Misses Winthrop and Berkeley, Mesdames Berkeley and Phipkin, Messrs. Edwards, Adair, and Thorne, and others. Captain Hayward stated that never in his experience had such an admirable series of numbers been presented on board ship, and the 30th of August will long remain as a red-letter day in the annals of the Mariposa. A most interesting feature was the presentation of a purse of 10½ guineas to the brilliant little artist, Miss Ollie Berkeley, from her Honolulu friends, the object being to furnish Miss Berkeley with a watch which will be a reminder of her voyage, and of the many friends who value and appreciate her ability. It is not too much to say that a happier party is rarely found on board a steamer than that which graced the social hall of the Mariposa on the occasion referred to, and grateful thanks to all who participated were fully and heartily expressed.

New Yorkers are betting big money on the ocean steamship race; the betting on the race can't compare with the old time bust-your-boiler-bet-your-bottom-dollar-tar-pitch-and-turpentine steamboat races on the Mississippi.

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